

WILSON ASKS UNLIMITED POWER

INCENDIARY FIRE ENDANGER'S LIFE OF SIXTEEN IN TENEMENT BUILDING

PEOPLE FLEE FROM FLATS
GARBED ONLY IN
NIGHT CLOTHES

POLICE LAUNCH QUIZ

BUSINESS BLOCK OF RICHARD
WOLFE IN NORTH OTTAWA IS
GUTTED BY FLAMES EARLY
THIS MORNING—ITALIAN GRO-
CERS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY BY
AUTHORITIES.

Sixteen people fled from the burning business block at the corner of Marquette and La Salle streets this morning at 2 o'clock, when a fire, claimed by the police to have been of incendiary origin, caused a ten thousand dollar damage to the building. Two arrests have followed in the wake of the conflagration.

The people who were forced to flee from their apartments above the store in the building were: Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Strubel and three children, Lester Beckman, Miss Neola Beckman, Willard Coates, a cripple, Elma Coates, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Locander and aged mother, Mrs. Whitney, and the four Locander children. The Locanders resided in a suite of rooms across the hall from the Strubels.

The blaze originated in the rear end of the Sylvester & Augustine grocery and spread with great rapidity. The H. J. Mitchell Produce Co.'s ware room, where was stored thousands of dollars worth of flour, potatoes and other foodstuffs, suffered a loss of \$2,000. The damage to the Italian grocery is estimated at \$1,000, while at least \$500 damage was done to the building.

Tenants in Danger.

At 2 o'clock this morning Mr. Strubel was awakened to find his room filled with smoke. He immediately aroused the members of his family and carried his wife to safety. On his next trip he brought two small children to the street below. The boards of the stairway actually bucked his feet as he made his heroic efforts to save the members of his family. The smoke-filled hallway made his task a difficult one, but he did not falter until all were safely out of the building.

Perhaps, however, the rescue of Willard Coates, a cripple, was more dramatic than the others. Lester Beckman, a lad of fourteen years, carried Coates on his back down the stairway and fell exhausted when he finally reached the street.

When Strubel had regained his senses he found that the members of the Locander family were still unaware of their terrible danger, they having evidently failed to hear the warning which he sounded at the outbreak of the fire. Strubel again dashed into the burning building and with his weight he succeeded in opening the door of the Locander home. Members of the family left their beds but were bewildered in the smoke filled hallways. Their cries by this time were attracting neighbors, who were soon on the scene of the blaze. Strubel succeeded in leading the entrapped people to the stairway landing, where they were able to escape their way in the darkness and smoke to the street below.

All were forced to flee from the burning building in their night clothes. John T. Flynn, who conducts a saloon on North La Salle street, offered shelter to the unfortunate people and they remained with him during the night.

Department on Scene.

When the fire department arrived on the scene the building was a mass of flames. Two streams of water were directed on the flames by Chief Joseph Bolesenski and his aids.

The fire originated in the rear portion of the Italian grocery, the flames then spreading to the Mitchell store room. For over an hour the firemen fought the flames before they finally conquered them. Smoke, water and fire destroyed everything in the grocery store, while smoke and water did the most damage to the Mitchell warehouse. A huge pile of potatoes at the south wall of the Mitchell store room served as a barrier to the flames. So intense was the heat, however, that the potatoes were actually baked.

NAB FATHER AND SON FOR THEFT OF ROBE AT DAYTON PARTY

Henry Jacobs and his father, Joseph Jacobs, both of Dayton township, are in the county jail charged with the theft of a new robe belonging to Charles Ulrich, a young Dayton farmer, Saturday night. The arrests were made Sunday afternoon after suspicion pointed to the younger Jacobs and a search warrant was secured giving the deputies the right to hunt thru the Jacobs home in quest of the missing robe.

The theft was made Saturday night at a party held at the River Peterson home, a mile and a half north of Ottawa. Ulrich left the robe—a recent birthday gift—in his buggy. When the party broke up in the wee small hours Ulrich went to his bed only to find his robe missing.

Suspicion pointed to young Jacobs and when the search was made at the parents' house, the missing robe was found in a gunny sack hidden away under the foundation. The elder Jacobs, when interviewed by the sheriff's aids, admitted his son came to the house early Sunday morning, awakened him and told him he had stolen a robe, and commanding him to keep it for him.

The father was taken in custody when the rug was discovered and is being held as an accessory to the crime. Both Jacobses are well known in the country to the north of Ottawa. This is the first time either has been in trouble.

DEER PARK FARMS ARE SOLD AT HIGH PRICE

The two farms belonging to the H. F. Bennett estate, of Deer Park township, were sold at public auction Saturday afternoon. The home place, consisting of 129 acres, all tillable, was sold to R. D. Mills, of this city, for \$295 per acre, making a total of \$38,475 and the eighty-acre farm which is partially timbered, was sold to William Myers, of Deer Park township, for \$150 per acre, or a total of \$12,000.

MRS. JANE WILSON DIES AT RYBURN HOSPITAL

Mrs. Jane Wilson, aged seventy-four years, died Sunday morning at 7 o'clock at Ryburn hospital, following a short illness of bronchial pneumonia. Mrs. Wilson formerly resided in Aurora, but has made her home in this city for the past few years. Her husband was a Civil War veteran.

The deceased is survived by one son, Lee. Funeral arrangements have not been completed. Interment will be in Wisconsin.

REPORT OTTAWA PAIR MARRIED AT MORRIS

Morris, Ill., Feb. 26.—(Special)—Miss Marie Kelly and William Armstrong, both of Ottawa, were married here a few days ago by County Judge Bedford. The young couple are prominently known in Ottawa and requested here that their marriage be kept a secret.

The above message was received today from the correspondent of the Free Trader-Journal at Morris, Ill. Both young people denied the marriage.

MRS. GATES STRICKEN WITH PARALYSIS

Stricken with paralysis Sunday morning at 8 o'clock at her apartment above Springhorn's meat market on Main street, Mrs. Lydia E. Gates, aged sixty years, was found Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock in a semi-conscious condition by two friends who called upon her. Today her condition is reported to be favorable. Sunday morning Mrs. Gates conversed with a sister over the phone, and shortly afterward, while she was attempting to call another friend, she was stricken and fell to the floor, the telephone receiver hanging down. Her feeble efforts for help failed to attract the attention of the operator. Not until eight hours afterwards did friends discover her plight. Dr. Palmer was called to attend her. The paralysis is confined to one side of Mrs. Gates' body and her speech is not affected.

COMMISSIONERS IN HEATED CLASH OVER SALOON TRANSFER

REILLY VIOLATION COMES TO
LIGHT WHEN LICENSE CHANGE
WAS UP FOR ACTION—SPADES
WERE SPADES.

The transfer of the E. J. Mooney saloon license to Richard A. Walsh, his bartender, precipitated the city council into turmoil for a short period this morning while members of the commission diverged from all known parliamentary rules to call a spade a spade. Commissioner Palmer injected the issue into the meeting by refusing to consent to the permit alteration upon the grounds that the transfer was a mere subterfuge and was not bona fide, for no other reason than to evade a revocation.

Announcing to the commissioners that he himself had caught Reilly running his place on Sunday, February 18, in defiance of the closing regulations, the first formal move in a rumored infraction, came to light during Mr. Palmer's argument against transferring Reilly's permit to Richard A. Walsh, his employee.

Reilly was brought before the mayor and Mr. Palmer for his session on the carpet, and admitted his guilt. Hints of Reilly's violations found their way into the columns of the Free Trader-Journal last Monday, but rumors of arrests were denied by the commissioner at that time. In fact no arrests have been made to this day.

The bomb was fired from a supposedly unbiased gun in the hands of Commissioner Charles Campbell. The commission during the process of the meeting and under the caption of "new business" presented a resolution recommending the transfer of the Reilly license to Mr. Walsh. Sureties were given by Mr. Walsh, as Theodore Grot and Mrs. Catherine Walsh. Following the usual forms in such cases provided the finance chief moved that the matter be referred to Mr. Palmer, and all commissioners acquiesced. Then the fire works started.

Mr. Palmer assumed charge of the case the moment it was placed in his hands and presented a resolution for adoption in which he referred to Reilly's misdemeanor as the second violation in the "bone dry" rule. He asked that the license be revoked and that Reilly be punished for his disregard for the council's mandates.

Mayor Bradford was inclined to be lenient with Reilly, particularly as Reilly had confessed guilt and was willing to get out of business. He said he had promised to permit a bona fide transfer to some responsible party, and as far as he knew, Mr. Walsh was a man standing up well with those requirements. Then Commissioner Campbell was given the floor and announced he was anxious to support Commissioner Palmer in all his undertakings but he believed Mr. Walsh should be investigated and if found to be satisfactory to the city, he should be granted a license, if not Reilly should make other provisions for obeying the orders from the authorities. Enter Commissioner Helfrich onto the scene.

Helfrich: "I would like further proof that Mr. Reilly has violated the laws. I know nothing about this case and have not been consulted in regards to it."

Palmer: "Oh, there is no use trying to give you any proof. That wouldn't do you good."

Helfrich (almost jumping out of his chair). Your honor I take exception to that statement of the commissioner. I have the floor now and I want you all to know that I am just as honorable as any member of this council. Because I have been unfortunate in this manner, I should be treated in this manner. I, unfortunately, was born in this country. What I have got I've had to earn. What little education I have I had to acquire by my own efforts. As for honor I have as much of that as anyone and I never pulled a race either."

Palmer: "Just grinned and looked at August when the race track episode was injected into the meeting."

Mayor: "I believe, Mr. Palmer, we are not overstepping our rules when we permit this transfer. I think it fair in view of what Mr. Reilly told us and what I told him."

Palmer: "Your honor, you are dodging the issue. We are just leaving this affair as an invitation to other saloon

EXTRA

ANNOUNCE SHELLING OF
ENGLISH CITY.

London, Feb. 26.—The English City of Margate Broadstairs was shelled by a German destroyer, it was announced in Common this afternoon by Sir Edw. Carson, First Lord of the Admiralty. One woman and a child were killed and two children were wounded.

keepers to laugh at the council. What am I to do when I go from this council room and out upon the streets. These men will laugh at me and say "he can't do anything" and then they will "sneak" themselves. Unless this license is revoked and Reilly dealt with as he should be "I am going to wash my hands of this whole affair. My men (meaning the police force) are handicapped and know they are powerless to do anything. If the council don't stand behind them there is no use trying to enforce the law."

With this Commissioner Meagher came into the game and asked for particulars, which were given him. Commissioner Campbell renewed his motion for a postponement of action and the vote was four to one against Mr. Palmer's move for immediate action. The council will assemble in the morning as decided the fate of the E. J. Reilly license.

In his remarks to the commission, Mr. Palmer told of going to the Reilly window on Sunday, February 18, peering within and then seeing men lined up before the bar with drinks before them. What the outcome of the case will be depends upon the investigation into Mr. Walsh's past, present and future, who is slated as Reilly's successor.

WIFE DESERTED HIM WEEK AFTER WEDDING

Alleging that his wife deserted him a week after their marriage, went home to her mother, and there wrote him she never would return to him again, Peter Schmitt, a resident of Kernan, this morning instituted divorce proceedings in the Circuit court against Clara Schmitt.

The Schmitts were married in Ottawa, May 5, 1913, and seven days later Mrs. Schmitt returned to her paternal parent's roof, where the deserted, or rejected spouse, says she is now living, and carrying out her promise to live separate and apart from him for ever more.

Schmitt says he is entitled to his freedom. The law fixes two years as a proper period to constitute desertion. He waited four.

COATES IN TROUBLE; GIVEN STAY IN JAIL

Charles Coates, Ottawa's mad boy, fell into the clutches of the law Saturday evening at 12 o'clock when arrested by Officer Reilly, upon complaint of Henry Cardoza, who alleged the lad was making a disturbance in his place.

Coates was locked in the city hall and released when Cardoza refused to testify against him. The youngster was booked under a disorderly conduct charge, but maintained his innocence, stating that he had a dispute with Cardoza over wages due him.

WEST OTTAWAN HELD ON SERIOUS CHARGE

Alleged to have made indecent advances to a West Ottawa girl, a man giving his name as Oliver Dornhal, was arrested Saturday evening at the Federal Plate Glass Company by Captain of Police Charles Montgomery. Dornhal was arraigned in police court Saturday evening before Justice Koenig and upon evidence of the young girl he was assessed a fine of \$50 and costs.

Dornhal denied the charge after paying his fine. He was given his freedom the same evening he was arrested.

SUES 'PHONE COMPAN. FOR \$10,000 DAMAGES IN COURT

Suit for \$10,000 damages was filed in the circuit court this afternoon by George S. Gumm of Marseilles, against the Marseilles Telephone Company. Only the precept was filed by the plaintiff. Browne & Wiley represent Mr. Gumm.

"FOR QUICK RESULTS TRY THE
"WANT" ADS. IN THE FREE
TRADER-JOURNAL.

MAY EXTEND NORTH PAVING DISTRICT ACROSS I. & M. CANAL

IMPROVEMENT BOARD FAVORS
CONTINUING BRICK SURFACING
TO ROCK ISLAND TRACKS—EN-
TIRELY NEW JOB WILL WIN.

The repaving of District No. 2, of the down town improvement, will be disposed of as soon as possible, according to sentiment expressed at this morning's meeting of the Board of Local Improvements. Divided sentiment that has long kept the members of the board in controversy over what style of paving should be decided upon, is believed now to be ironed out with the majority of the board and council in favor of a concrete base for the entire district.

Go Beyond Canal.

Principal among the discussions brought up this morning was the proposed extension of the district from its present northern limit at the I. & M. canal so as to include that territory lying beyond the waterway and south of the Rock Island right of way. This would mean two additional blocks of paving with the two principal streets paved as far as the railways. Marquette street probably would be paved, under this plan, as a connecting link, while the extension to the east would be made only to include the corner property. Commissioner Campbell, Mayor Bradford and Engineer Farnsworth favor the extension while Commissioner Helfrich parried for time to look into the proposed change.

The commissioner is up against a petition signed by ninety-five per cent. of the property owners calling upon him to support measures calling only for the resurfacing of the Lafayette street section and consequently is so situated as to be unable to say right now just what his stand will be toward the entirely new job.

Mayor Favors Concrete Base.

The mayor announced that as long as the conduit system was to include the north section, he could see no reason why the people should be against a concrete base. The base, he said, will be four inches in thickness and the entire "loop" then will be paved uniformly.

Estimates and an ordinance covering the work will be compiled as soon as possible and the general belief in administration circles is that the repaving will be pushed so it can be continued with District No. 1 when the pavers are thru with that section.

MRS. HOWE IS CALLED TO HER FINAL REWARD

Mrs. Sarah E. Howe died Sunday evening at 12 o'clock at her home on 1437 Illinois avenue, following a long illness. Her death is attributed to infirmities of old age.

The deceased was born in Colerain, Mass., Oct. 19, 1829. When nine years of age she moved with her parents to a farm two miles north of Seneca. Mrs. Howe lived on this farm until her marriage to Robert Jones, of Morris, who died in Ottawa five years after their marriage.

In 1867 she was united in marriage to Ira B. Howe, of Ottawa, who died in 1902.

Mrs. Howe was a woman of remarkable vigor, both of mind and body and in spite of her declining years she kept in touch with local and national topics of the day. She loved her household duties and took a great interest in her cooking and sewing. Surviving she leaves one daughter, Adelaide Jones, of Ottawa, and a step-sister, Mrs. Nathan Fleming, of Marseilles. Mrs. Dwight Cooke, of Marseilles, is a niece of the deceased.

The funeral services will be held Wednesday at 2 o'clock from the late residence. The services will be private.

ITALIAN COUPLE MARRIED BY JUDGE HENRY MAYO

Judge Henry Mayo presided at the marriage of Ernest Guiliano, aged 25, and Miss Lena Carson, aged 18, a well known Ottawa Italian young couple. The ceremony was performed in the judge's chambers, and after a brief wedding trip the newlyweds will make their home on the west side.

GOES BEFORE CONGRESS FOR FULL AUTHORITY TO DEAL WITH WAR CRISIS

Washington, Feb. 26.—President Wilson addressed a joint session of congress at 1 o'clock this afternoon in accordance with the promise made at his previous appearance at the time the U. S. broke diplomatic relations with Germany.

PRESIDENT SEES NO IM- MEDIATE DANGER IN CRISIS

Declaring his belief that he has the confidence of the American people he requested the right not only to supply arms to American merchants ships if necessary, but to employ any "instrumentalities or method that may be necessary and adequate to protect our ships and our people in their peaceful pursuits on the seas."

Congress was asked for "sufficient credit to enable me to provide adequate means of protection where they are lacking including adequate insurance against the present war risk."

The president declared that, diplomatic means have failed to safeguard American interests, all that is left is to adopt an adequate of a new American policy.

He stated that neither the American people nor the administration wishes war and insisted that war can come only by willful acts and aggression of others.

The president said that it would be foolish to deny that the situation is fraught with the gravest possibilities and dangers.

"No tactful man can fail to see that the necessity for definite action may come at any time," he continued.

He then referred to the fact that Congress shortly must adjourn because of constitutional limitations and stated that to reorganize the next Congress would take much time.

It was because of this that the president stated that he desired to have all possible authority behind him, altho he explained he already enjoyed all the authority he asked under existing laws.

LACONIA GOES TO BOTTOM UNWARNED IS CAPITOL REPORT

London, Feb. 26.—It has been reported that the Laconia was unwarned before it was torpedoed. Three Chicagoans were aboard the craft, including Floyd P. Gibbons, of the Chicago Tribune. One is known to be dead. There are 250 survivors, seven of them American passengers. There were 21 American members of the crew.

Big Liner Reported Sunk.

Washington, Feb. 26.—The Cunard Liner Laconia has been torpedoed and sunk, according to a report received here this afternoon. The Laconia was a vessel of 18,000 tons, and has been engaged in the Government service for some time.

SPRINGLIKE SABBATH BRINGS FOLKS OUT

Ottawa's first springlike Sabbath served as a great tonic to hundreds upon hundreds who yesterday took advantage of their first opportunity to spend an afternoon in the open. Shanks' mules and Lizzies and then real automobiles were the popular order of the day.

Many new machines, including a new Lexington driven by Judge A. T. Lardin, made their initial bow to an admiring populace. Those with older brands did not have any regrets at coming out in their particular vintage. The majority, however, were afoot and enjoyed the day to their utmost.

The government thermometer caught the warmest portion of the day at 50 above zero—considerable of a contrast to the weather that has been prevailing during the past two months.